

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/AU2004/000407

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

Int. Cl. ⁷: G01N 35/00.

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
DWPI: +slide?, (mix+ or blend+ or combin+ or prepar+) (s) (reagent+ or antibod+), (mix+ or blend+ or combin+ or prepar+) (s) (analy+ or test+ or assay+), appl+ or +stain+ or dispens+ or incubat+ or hydrat+ or dye+, automat+ or control+ or autonom+ or computeri+, cytolog+ or histolog+ or histopath+ or biops+ or immunohist+ or immunoassay+ or immunopath+, batch+ or schedul+ or program+ or order+ or sequen+, robot+ or arm? or manipulator?

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
P,X	WO 2004/001390 A1 (VISION BIOSYSTEMS LIMITED) 31 December 2003. Page 15, line 18–page 16, line 24.	1–13
X	US 2002/0090730 A1 (ECKERT et al.) 11 July 2002. Claim 1.	1–13
X	US 2002/0072122 A1 (COPELAND et al.) 13 June 2002. Whole document.	1–13

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C ☒ See patent family annex

* Special categories of cited documents:	
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search 6 July 2004	Date of mailing of the international search report 9 JUL 2004
Name and mailing address of the ISA/AU AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA E-mail address: pct@ipaustalia.gov.au Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929	Authorized officer RAJEEV DESHMUKH Telephone No : (02) 6283 2145

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C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6349264 B1 (RHETT et al.) 19 February 2002. Claim 1.	1-13
X	US 5609822 A (CAREY et al.) 11 March 1997. Column 5, line 28-column 6, line 19; column 9, lines 24-34; figures 9-10.	1-13
X	EP 485816 A2 (GRUPO GRIFOLS S.A.) 20 May 1992. Column 2, lines 4-20; figure 1.	1-13
X	US 4678752 A (THORNE et al.) 7 July 1987 Column 8, lines 60-68; column 11, line 56-column 12, line 5; figures 2, 4.	1-13
X	WO 2001/051909 A1 (LAB VISION CORPORATION) 19 July 2001 Page 5, lines 18-20; page 8, lines 5-14; figures 3-4.	1-13

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.

PCT/AU2004/000407

This Annex lists the known "A" publication level patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The Australian Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

Patent Document Cited in Search Report		Patent Family Member					
WO	2004001390						
US	2002090730	CN	1350171	DE	10052833	GB	2368397
		JP	2002181676				
US	6349264	US	5839091	US	2002116132	WO	03052386
US	5609822	AU	40551/99	CA	2179230	EP	0757253
		EP	1088234	JP	9033535	US	5788928
		US	6066300	US	6432359	WO	9966334
EP	0485816	CA	2054927	ES	2024340		
US	4678752	AU	61835/86	BR	8604501	CA	1273553
		DK	549286	EP	0223002	JP	62119460
		NZ	217306	ZA	8606493		
WO	0151909	AU	26345/01	CA	2396805	EP	1247084
		US	6746851				
Due to data integration issues this family listing may not include 10 digit Australian applications filed since May 2001.							
END OF ANNEX							